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Letter dated 16 February 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Swaziland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the letter dated 3 February 2016 regarding the issuance of "Free and equal" postage stamps, at an event held at United Nations Headquarters earlier this month (A/70/738), please note that, unfortunately, I have not received any feedback from you with regard to that important topic.

The African Group seeks clarification regarding the following points:

1. Has the above-mentioned event been endorsed by Member States in any intergovernmental body? The Secretariat of the United Nations should not associate the United Nations logo with a stamp promoting a controversial issue without consulting with Member States. It is worth mentioning that the use of the logo is governed by certain legal rules, including copyrights.

2. How was this event financed, and under which budget item?

3. What are the future steps by the United Nations Secretariat related to the issuance of this stamp (sale, distribution, printing, etc.)? And how will revenue from these stamps be used?

Given all the previous considerations, the African Group requests an urgent meeting with you to discuss that issue before the beginning of the resumed session of the Fifth Committee.

The African Group further requests that its letters be circulated as documents of the General Assembly, under agenda item 134.

(*Signed*) Zwelethu **Mnisi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative